



THE CANADIAN DENTAL  
HYGIENISTS ASSOCIATION  
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE  
DES HYGIÉNISTES DENTAIRES



## Streamlined Professional Renewal FAQs

(Disponible en français sur la demande)

*Starting in 2017, a new streamlined professional renewal process will be put in place that will see all practicing dental hygienists in British Columbia pay fees to the College of Dental Hygienists of British Columbia (CDHBC), the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA) and the British Columbia Dental Hygienists Association (BCDHA) at one time.*

### 1. Why did things have to change?

BCDHA and CDHA are committed to delivering top quality benefits to our members. But our work doesn't stop there as we are the only organizations that give a voice to the dental hygiene profession in British Columbia. Our biggest job is to advance the dental hygiene profession through dialogue with government, the public, the regulatory body, and other agencies. In order to ensure we have a strong profession, we need all dental hygienists to support this important advocacy work at the local, provincial and national levels.

BCDHA surveyed its membership in 2012 to determine if there was support for a requirement for all practicing dental hygienists in BC to be members of their professional association. Seventy-two percent of respondents indicated they "strongly agree" or "agree" with the requirement for all practicing dental hygienists to be members of the professional associations.

BC dental hygienists will now all equally financially support our advocacy efforts and will be represented with one united voice on national and provincial issues. At the same time, all BC dental hygienists will have access to quality continuing education and other professional tools to ensure they meet their regulatory obligation of maintaining safe and current care.

Additionally, not all professional liability insurance plans offer equal coverage. CDHA's plan offers optimum coverage so both the public and dental hygienists are well protected. The public can be confident that when a dental hygienist is providing treatment, he/she has continuous comprehensive professional liability insurance coverage. And dental hygienists can be assured they are well protected under the policy offered through CDHA.

### 2. When is this change coming into effect?

Starting March 1, 2017, all practicing BC dental hygienists will be required to pay fees to CDHBC and CDHA/BCDHA at the same time during the CDHBC renewal period. The new streamlined renewal means that all practicing BC dental hygienists will be automatically covered by CDHA professional liability insurance.

If you are already a CDHA/BCDHA member, beginning in 2017 you will renew your membership at the same time that you renew your CDHBC registration. However, BC dental hygienists will need to



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ensure that they have professional liability insurance coverage between January 1 and February 28, 2017. In fall 2016, you will be able to renew your CDHA/BCDHA membership for this interim period with a reduced fee or obtain professional liability insurance through your current provider.

### 3. How much will it cost?

CDHA/BCDHA have not yet set fees for 2016-2017 and they will be announced in August. The fees will be adjusted accordingly to bridge the period from November 1, 2016, to February 28, 2017. For the 2017-2018 registration year, the fees will be announced in December 2016.

	Full Member Fee 2015-2016
CDHBC	\$495
BCDHA	\$175*
CDHA	\$187*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$857</b>

*\*Based on 2015-2016 fees.*

### 4. Are there payment options?

Starting March 18, 2016, BC dental hygienists may choose to make pre-payment contributions through a credit card to a refundable deposit account. These payments will be set up by the individual in an amount and schedule of their choosing. They can be set up either on a monthly basis or even as a one-time payment. Any amount accumulated by January 2017 will be put towards the cost of their 2017-2018 renewal. This prepaid deposit amount is refundable if a BC dental hygienist decides to move out of province or cancel their registration prior to renewal. Please contact CDHBC to start this process.

### 5. Will I be able to get my money back if I am no longer registered or leave the province during the registration/membership year?

Neither CDHBC nor the associations provide refunds after the registration/membership year has begun.

### 6. I only work part time and I currently pay less for my professional liability insurance. Why I am being forced to pay the same amount as someone who works full time?

All dental hygienists, whether working part time or full time need access to professional liability insurance that will provide sound protection. This process means that all practicing BC dental hygienists will be required to pay fees to CDHA and BCDHA during the CDHBC renewal period so that they are automatically covered by comprehensive and continuous professional liability insurance and have access to educational opportunities and other benefits.



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The public can be confident that when a dental hygienist is providing treatment, he/she has continuous comprehensive professional liability insurance coverage, and all dental hygienists will have access to quality continuing education and other professional tools to ensure they meet their regulatory obligation of maintaining safe and current care.

**7. When is the annual renewal period?**

The renewal period will be from March 1<sup>st</sup> to February 28<sup>th</sup> (February 29<sup>th</sup> on leap years), effective 2017.

**8. Since the new streamlined professional renewal via CDHBC takes effect March 1, 2017, how do I renew my CDHA/BCDHA membership and professional liability insurance for the period in between (November 1, 2016, to February 28, 2017)?**

You can renew it the same way you did in the past via CDHA. You can either log in and renew online using your credit card or call CDHA to renew. The fees will be reduced accordingly.

**9. How and with whom do I renew for the 2017-2018 registration year?**

You will need to renew with CDHBC starting as early as January 2017. This will automatically include the renewal for CDHA/BCDHA and your professional liability insurance. However, if you want to start prepaying towards this renewal period, you can begin doing that as early as March 18, 2016.

**10. Will I receive one identification number?**

You will continue to have your same registration number through CDHBC and a separate membership number for CDHA/BCDHA.

**11. I need special professional liability insurance with higher coverage—more than \$1 million per occurrence, \$5 million aggregate per year. What are my options?**

CDHA offers enhanced insurance options: (A) coverage of \$2 million per occurrence, \$5 million aggregate per year; or (B) coverage of \$5 million per occurrence, \$5 million aggregate per year. In order to purchase this additional insurance at a reasonable cost, please contact CDHA directly.

**12. Who will provide me with the professional liability insurance certificate?**

CDHA will generate and email you your insurance certificate. The insurance certificate will also be available when you log in to your CDHA account.

**13. Do I still need to send a professional liability insurance certificate to the College?**

With this new, simplified renewal process, CDHBC will no longer require you to provide proof of insurance as it is included as part of your membership/registration renewal.



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**14. Will the professional liability insurance continue to be valid for the calendar year?**

As of March 1, 2017, the new insurance period for BC dental hygienists will be from March 1 to February 28, which aligns with the new membership/licensing period.

**15. If I purchase professional liability insurance with a competitor, will I be covered?**

The new simplified process includes the CDHBC-approved insurance offered via CDHA. If you choose to purchase professional liability insurance from another source, then you will need to have this approved by CDHBC.

**16. Will the professional liability insurance cover me in other provinces?**

Yes, the professional liability insurance offered by CDHA will cover you in all Canadian provinces.

**17. What if I move to another province?**

Your CDHA membership and professional liability insurance travels with you everywhere in Canada. However, you will need to register with the regulatory body in your new province. Contact CDHA for more information.

**18. I haven't been a member of CDHA/BCDHA in a while. What are the membership benefits?**

For CDHA benefits, please [click here](#). For BCDHA benefits, please [click here](#).

**19. How can I join CDHA's Educators' Community and/or Independent Practice Network?**

In order to purchase these additional memberships, you will need to log in to your CDHA membership profile and purchase it separately, or contact CDHA directly.

**If you have any other questions, please contact CDHA at 1-800-267-5235 or BCDHA at 1-888-305-3338 or 604-415-4559.**